

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification according to the following:

[0034] One embodiment of a splice is shown in FIG. 2A, 2B and 2C ~~FIG. 3A through FIG. 3D~~.

This embodiment is a compression fitting splice. In this embodiment, the compression fitting may include, but is not limited to, a compressible body **302**, a rigid enclosure **304**, and at least one compression implement **306**. In further embodiments, the compression fitting may also include a washer **308** and a conductor sleeve **310**. These elements of the compression fitting function to mate with the composite core **100** of the ACCC cable **200** and compress the compressible body **302** such that friction holds onto the composite core **100**. Each element will be explained further below.

[0036] The elastomer **302** may provide one or more cavities **314** to mate with the composite core **100**. These cavities **314** provide the female end of the mate with the composite core **100**. In one embodiment, the cavity **314** perfectly fits the composite core **100**. In essence, the inside shape and size of the cavity **314** is the same as the outside shape and size of the composite core **100**. ~~FIG. 3~~ FIG. 2A and FIG. 2B shows the elastomer **302**, its corresponding cavity **314**, and the composite core **100** having a generally circular cross section. However, the composite core **100**, the elastomer **302**, and the cavity **314** may take on other shapes for cross sections and other shapes for the interior cavities.

[0037] In an exemplary embodiment shown in ~~FIG. 3~~ FIG. 2A, the cavities **314** extend within the elastomer **302** axially centered along the length of the elastomer **302**. As shown in FIG. 2C ~~FIG. 3C~~, the elastomer **302** may have a first cavity **314** and a second cavity **314** in which each cavity **314** accepts the composite core **100** of either the first cable **200** or second cable **200**. The cables **200** can be inserted in the cavities **314** at the first end **320** or second end **318**. In the

embodiment shown, there are two separate and distinct cavities 314, with a wall of elastomer 324 separating the two cavities 314 at about the midpoint 322 of the elastomer 302. Other embodiments of the elastomer 302 and rigid enclosure 304 are shown in FIG. 5. The cavity 314 may be formed as one cavity 502 spanning the entire length of the elastomer 302. Also, in some embodiments, the rigid enclosure 504 may form two cavities 314, and each cavity 314 would have a separate elastomer 506.

[0038] Another element of the compression fitting is the rigid enclosure 304. The rigid enclosure 304 provides a case that encapsulates the elastomer 302. The rigid enclosure 304 should have the same general shape as the elastomer 302 and allow the elastomer 302 to fit inside the rigid enclosure 304. In an exemplary embodiment, the rigid enclosure 304 is a splicing tube 304 as shown in FIG. 2A and FIG. 2B ~~FIG. 3~~. However, the invention is not limited to that one embodiment but may assume any shape that can encapsulate the elastomer 302. The rigid enclosure 304 prevents the elastomer 302 from expanding or becoming misshapen when the elastomer 302 is compressed. Thus, the rigid enclosure 304 must maintain its shape when the elastomer 302 is being compressed and pressing on the interior walls of the enclosure 304.

[0040] In FIG. 2 ~~FIG. 3~~, the rigid enclosure 304 has the shape of a splicing tube 304. This shape is only exemplary. The rigid enclosure 304 should take on the shape of the elastomer 302. However, the rigid enclosure 304 may be hereinafter described as a splicing tube 304. The rigid enclosure 304 provides openings to allow the elastomer 302 to mate with the composite cores 100. The embodiment shown has a first open end 326 and a second open end 324. In addition, the rigid enclosure 304 also can provide additional openings for the compression implement 306.

[0044] In another embodiment, the compression fitting **300** may also include a conductor sleeve **310**. The conductor sleeve **310** refers to any structure that functions as an electrical jumper between the first cable **200** and the second cable **200**. A conductor sleeve **310** conducts and passes the electric current from one cable **200** to another. In one embodiment, the conductor sleeve **310** may be a cable **200** that is crimped to the conductors **202** of the first cable **200** and second cable **200**. In an exemplary embodiment, the conductor sleeve **310** is another hollow cylinder that can be slipped over the entire splice and contact the conductors **202** on both the first cable **200** and second cable **200**. The conductor sleeve **310** may be an electrically conductive tube that can carry the electric current from the first cable **200**, over the splice, to the second cable **200**. This embodiment of the conductor sleeve **310** is shown in **FIG. 2C** ~~FIG. 3~~ and is only exemplary.